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Americans join Italian hunt for Yank general

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Verona, Italy (Combined Dispatches)—Six anti-terrorism agents from the United States joined forces with Italian police yesterday to hunt for the Red Brigades' terrorists who abducted an American general.

Police had eyewitness descriptions of six of the eight or nine urban guerrillas who kidnapped Army Brig. Gen. James L. Dozier from his apartment here last Thursday, police sources said. Dozier is the highest-ranking American officer at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's armored forces headquarters here.

Police said that James Dozier searchers using dogs and helicopters continued to hunt through the surrounding countryside and that the U.S. team of experts was participating.

IN PERUGIA, 170 miles south of Verona, police reported a second search had begun following an anonymous tip. They gave no details of the tip.

Italian investigators said they also were looking into the possibility that the Red Brigades was holding the 50-year-old general in a hideout outside Italy.

Officials said Dozier was the first American officer kidnaped in Europe since World War II.

The American agents, some from the Central Intelligence Agency and some from the Defense Intelligence Agency, arrived from Washington Saturday and interrogated Dozier's wife, Judith, into the early hours of yesterday, investigators said.

Italian investigators said the U.S. agents apparently were coordinating their efforts with their Italian counterparts and with intelligence agents and anti-terrorism experts from West Germany and France.

The arrival of the American agents coincided with the release of the Red Brigades' first full communique on the kidnaping, the gang's first known attack on an American in Italy.

"On Thursday, Dec. 17, an armed unit of our organization captured and put in a people's prison a Yankee pig of the American occupation army," the Red Brigades said in the communique left in a trash can Saturday near Rome's central train station.